



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES SAFETY POLICY MEMORANDUM

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| POLICY NUMBER: 20                      | DATE: April 17, 2002         |
| TITLE: Control of Hazardous Substances | APPROVED BY: Martin McIntyre |

### REFERENCE

Title 8, California Code of Regulations, Chapter 4, Subchapter 7, Section 5141

### PURPOSE

To establish procedures for the elimination and control of hazardous dusts, fumes, mists, vapors and gases.

### POLICY

Wherever possible, hazardous dusts, fumes, mists, vapors, and gases shall be eliminated or controlled to prevent exposure of employees.

### DEFINITIONS

#### Administrative Controls

Any procedure which limits exposure by adjustment of the work schedule.

#### Engineering Controls

Methods of controlling occupational exposure to injurious materials or conditions by means of general or local exhaust ventilation, substitution by a less hazardous material, by process modification, or by isolation or enclosure of health hazard-producing operations or machinery.

## CONTROL OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

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### Harmful Exposure

An exposure to dusts, fumes, mists, vapors, or gases:

In excess of any permissible limit; or,

Of such a nature by inhalation as to result in, or have a probability to result in injury, illness, disease, impairment, or loss of function.

### ENGINEERING CONTROLS

Harmful exposures shall be prevented by engineering controls whenever feasible.

### ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS

Whenever engineering controls are not feasible or do not achieve full compliance, administrative controls shall be implemented if practicable.

### CONTROL BY RESPIRATORY PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Respiratory protective equipment shall be used to prevent harmful exposures as follows:

During the time period necessary to install or implement feasible engineering controls;

Where feasible engineering controls and administrative controls fail to achieve full compliance; and,

In emergencies.